



# NAVY NEWS



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Forward ... from the Sea

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## England Swears in Livingstone as Under SECNAV

*By the Office of the Secretary of the Navy Public Affairs*

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Gordon R. England recently swore in Susan Morrissey Livingstone as the undersecretary of the Navy during a July 25 ceremony at the Pentagon.

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark and Gen. Mike Williams, assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, attended the ceremony.

As undersecretary of the Navy, Livingstone serves as the principal deputy to SECNAV.

Livingstone, who succeeds Robert B. Pirie Jr., previously served as Chief Executive Officer of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) and deputy chairman of its council of trustees.

From 1993 to 1998, she held posts with the American Red Cross, including vice president of health and safety services and consultant for the Armed Forces Emergency Services.

Livingstone also served as assistant secretary of the Army, held positions with the Veterans Administration (now Department of Veterans Affairs) and served as a congressional staff member on Capital Hill.

She graduated from the College of William and Mary in 1968 with a bachelor's degree in philosophy, and completed a master's degree in political science at the University of Montana in 1972. Livingstone also spent two years in postgraduate studies the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and Tufts University.



**The Honorable Susan Morrissey Livingstone is sworn in as the 29th Undersecretary of the Navy by the Honorable Gordon R. England, Secretary of the Navy, in a small ceremony held in Mr. England's office at the Pentagon.**

**Photo by Chief Photographer's Mate Dolores L. Parlato**

Born in Carthage, Mo., Livingstone grew up in an Air Force family and now claims Montana as her home state.

For more information, go to [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil) and select "L" for leadership, then choose "Undersecretary of the Navy."

## CNP Discusses Issues With *Lincoln* Crew

*By Journalist 1st Class (SW) David Rush, USS Abraham Lincoln Public Affairs*

PUGET SOUND, Wash. (NNS) — Vice Adm. Norb Ryan, Chief of Naval Personnel, recently concluded his tour of Navy commands throughout the Pacific Northwest on the flight deck of USS *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72).

Officers and Sailors gathered near the carrier's island structure to hear Ryan address several issues, including manpower, the budget, career incentives and leadership.

According to Ryan, his

visit culminating aboard USS *Abraham Lincoln* served not just the Sailors he spoke to, but also as an indicator to him as to how the fleet is doing "on the deck plates."

"It's tremendously uplifting to see so many people doing such a fantastic job," Ryan said. "Whether its Sailors aboard USS *Abraham Lincoln* or aircrews at Whidbey Island, it is good to see the positive professionals everywhere. It really gives you a sense of the momentum that we are seeing back in Washington, D.C., with

the higher re-enlistment rates and lower attrition. Pacific Northwest Sailors are definitely leading the charge."

As for manning levels throughout the Navy, Ryan is optimistic, and has the statistics to support his positive outlook.

"We have made our goal in recruiting for the past two years and should do the same for this year," Ryan said. "Attrition is down, so that's really positive. The bottom line: we went from 18,500 gapped billets at sea in 1998 to 5,000 today. That's a 73 percent improvement.

"I'd like to talk about where we are, and where we want to go. Two years ago we had the worst first-term enlistment rate in 20 years. The good news is that most of that bad news is behind us. This year, our first-term re-enlistments are up 9 percent. This year, we are re-enlisting 59 percent of those who have served for four years. That's above the CNO's goal of 57 percent. We are hoping to keep that momentum going for the

*See CNP, page 4*

## Replenishment



**Conning Officer Ensign Katherine A. Moran (l) verifies USS Mount Whitney (LCC 20) position alongside USNS Patuxent (AO 201) as QMSR Babatunde O. Fowowe records the ship's bearing. The ships are currently conducting underway replenishment exercises off the Virginia coast. Photo by PHC(NAC) Tom Wynn**

## Vieques Replacement Group Head Named

*By Rudi Williams, American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Retired Adm. Leighton W. Smith and retired Marine Corps Gen. Charles Wilhelm have been named co-chairmen of a group charged to find a training site to replace the Puerto Rican island of Vieques.

Pentagon spokesman Rear Adm. Craig Quigley announced the appointments during a recent press briefing at the Pentagon.

Smith and Wilhelm were tapped by the Center for Naval Analysis to head the study group, Quigley said. Other

members have not yet been named, but the group is expected to include analysts and other retired senior military officers, he noted.

Quigley said the Smith-Wilhelm group's goal is to find one or more places to provide Atlantic Fleet naval forces with good quality training in air-to-ground and amphibious operations, and naval surface fire support.

The Navy is scheduled

*See Vieques, page 5*

## RDC Duty at Great Lakes Pays in Many Ways

*By Lt. j.g. John Robinson, Naval Training Center Great Lakes Public Affairs*

GREAT LAKES, Ill. (NNS) — Not many Sailors would jump at the opportunity to return to boot camp. However, some Sailors realize that returning to Recruit Training Command (RTC) Great Lakes as a recruit division commander (RDC) offers a great set of benefits that includes a once-in-a-lifetime experience to shape the future of the Navy.

"A lot of people thought I was crazy to come back here as a twilight tour," said Boatswain's Mate 1st Class (SW/AW) Robert Nobles, who is preparing to start his second tour as an RDC. "But I love this job. The rewards outweigh anything else."

The job includes a host of perks, including preferential housing and childcare, special-duty pay, free dry cleaning and an annual uniform allowance. Perhaps the biggest long-term benefit is the experience, which pays huge dividends in career advancement.

"You are in a leadership position in this job," said Senior Chief Fire

Controlman (SW) Andrew Gibson, currently on his second tour as an RDC. "When I go back to the fleet, I feel that I am so much further ahead of my counterparts."

RDCs are perhaps the only Sailors who get to mold a large number of civilians into Sailors. In a three-year tour, an RDC will personally train more than 1,000 Sailors for the fleet.

Every RDC who completes a 36-month tour and trains at least five divisions receives the Recruit Training Service ribbon. Some RDCs say they were motivated to step up to the challenge of the job after hearing various complaints in the fleet.

"Instead of being part of the problem, we can be part of the solution," said Aviation Storekeeper 1st Class (AW/SW) Lucy Alexandrie, who is in training to be an RDC. "I think this is a very rewarding job, knowing that I can take part in what goes out to the fleet."

It is not easy to qualify as an RDC. Candidates must have a warfare

qualification and are expected to be in top physical shape. The commanding officer and command master chief at the RTC personally screen each RDC candidate.

Once each RDC completes a tour, the advancement benefits pay off almost immediately. Sailors with Navy enlisted codes (NEC) for RDC advance at higher percentage rates than their counterparts competing on E-7, E-8 and E-9 boards.

For instance, in fiscal year (FY) 2001, at the E-9 level, those who have served as RDCs advanced at 35.2 percent.

Forty percent of eligible candidates who served as RDCs were selected for chief petty officer, compared to about a 25.5 percent fleet wide. For E-7, RDCs advanced at 16.2 percent, compared to a 11.9 percent rate fleet-wide. All eight RDCs who put in officer packages in FY01 were selected for commissions.

RDCs continue to enjoy some benefits after they leave the job.

*See RDC, page 5*

# Making Sense of the Common Access Card

By Vicky Falcon, NAVAIR Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — As Aviation Electronics Technician 2nd Class Eric Emenhiser recently lined up inside a hangar at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md., to receive his Common Access Card (CAC), he couldn't help but be a little apprehensive.

In order to get his new identification card, Emenhiser, would need to give up his familiar green military identification card before leaving for his next duty station at Keflavik, Iceland.

"I was very nervous," Emenhiser said. "Sometimes change is good. Sometimes it doesn't make any sense."

Making sense of the CAC has been difficult at times. Ongoing computer network and server problems have caused delays in the issuance process across the country. Officials concede that the new card currently offers no additional capabilities, but they expect the developing technology behind the CAC will enhance the card's capabilities in the future.

So far, 28,000 CACs have been issued. The CAC is only being used for access to military bases, but several new features are expected in the near future.

According to Rob Carey, director of the Department of the Navy Smart Card Office (DONSCO), in the future the card will allow encryption of e-mail, digital signatures, access to secure Web sites and the use of a number of new Navy applications.

"We are not only issuing a new ID

card, we are issuing a card that acts as a computer," Carey said. "This card is your passport to the e-world."

Individual stations will be able to choose what features of the card to use. According to Carey, the big push for CAC within the Navy is to support the security features of the Navy Marine Corp Intranet (NMCI).

After CAC is issued Navywide, the technology will be used to improve business processes, information assurance, mission effectiveness and quality of life.

As a result of the card, Naval Training Center Great Lakes, Ill., has seen significant cost savings, improved accountability for food services and recruit functions, and significant positive effects from streamlining their business practices.

Other "smart card" applications in use include food service, warrior readiness, manifest tracking, and weapons issuance.

"As the chip technology expands, the limits for new applications are boundless," Carey said.



The CAC features three forms of technology: the magnetic strip, the bar code and the computer chip. "As we migrate into a chip-based environment the need for the current magnetic strip and bar code will diminish," Carey said.

He added that, as chip technology develops, the Department of the Navy plans to use the CAC card as an access token to data, not as a storage card.

"The only information that will actually be stored on the card will be basic demographics and unique personnel benefit entitlements," Carey said.

For more information about the CAC, go to [www.doncio.navy.mil/focusareas/smartcard](http://www.doncio.navy.mil/focusareas/smartcard).

## BMC Oceana Introduces "Open Access" Policy

By Journalist 2nd Class Duke Richardson, NMC Portsmouth Public Affairs

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (NNS) — Getting in to see the doctor at the Branch Medical Clinic (BMC) at Naval Air Station Oceana is now quicker than ever, thanks to the clinic's new open-access policy.

According to Cmdr. Peter Kopacz, BMC Oceana's officer in charge, the open-access policy is one way the clinic offers expedient, quality care for its patients. These patients can now

receive treatment on the same day they call for an appointment.

"What this means is, that if our patients need to be seen, then we will do whatever it takes to get them seen that same day," Kopacz said. "We have appointments open that day for you to be seen, so you will be seen that day, or on rare occasions, the next day. But the patient will be seen within 24 hours."

Oceana is the first naval medical

clinic in the Tidewater, Va., region to institute this policy. According to Lt. Cmdr. Ray Wilson, division officer of BMC Oceana's family practice, the whole concept began with an article regarding the utilization of open access for patients.

"An article about same-day access was put out and made its way around

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**CNP, con't. from pg. 1**

rest of the year.

"As a result, the carrier battle group is going out with better manning. I gave Congress a long list of things we would like to have to be competitive for your services, and to convince you and the people you are trying to convince to stay in, to 'Stay Navy,'" Ryan added.

One *Abraham Lincoln* Sailor who enjoyed the fact that Ryan came to visit, and perhaps more importantly, came to listen, was Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Frank Fall.

"I enjoy hearing directly from senior leadership about where we are and where we're going," Fall said. "During the past year, it seemed like we have become a much more informed force, which allows us to make better decisions. They're working with career-oriented Sailors and first-termers, trying to help them 'Stay Navy,' while working on improving our pay and benefits."

*Lincoln*, commanded by Capt. Douglas K. Dupouy, is homeported in Everett, Wash. The ship is currently undergoing a maintenance period at the nearby Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

For information on USS *Abraham Lincoln*, go to [www.cvn72.navy.mil](http://www.cvn72.navy.mil).

## Dragon Days



**Lt. Kendal Zamzow prepares the smoke for the Navy dragon team during the recent 2001 Kappa Festival in Masawa, Japan.  
Photo by Photographer's Mate 3rd Class Shay Black**

**BMC, con't. from pg. 3**

the clinic the same time we had about 400 people here to be seen in the ER (emergency room)," Wilson said. "We saw way more people than normal, so we decided we would give open access a try."

It took nearly two months of planning, according to Wilson. He said that borrowing ideas from another clinic served as a good foundation to build Oceana's new policy.

"We went to the clinic in Patuxent River, Md., to take a look at their open-access concept," Wilson said. "We learned some things from their operation such as what we should and should not do. We decided to start by incorporating the idea into our family practice unit. It has been very successful."

"The key to this concept is that everyone here was involved to make

sure it worked," explained Kopacz. "If everyone here wasn't playing on the same sheet of music and working together, this wouldn't have worked."

Despite the new policy, the patients are still using previous methods to schedule appointments, said Cmdr. Casey Knapp, Medical Service Corps (MSC), the senior nurse at BMC Oceana. "The patients still call the TRICARE 1-800 number to ask for an appointment. They are, hopefully, relatively surprised that they are now getting in easier and faster."

Reaction to the open access policy has been overwhelmingly positive, according to Kopacz. "So I think it is safe to say that our patients are happy," he said.

Kopacz added that BMC Oceana introduced a new number system at the pharmacy modeled after one at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, Va. "That, combined with the open-access policy, has really helped increase our customer satisfaction level. A year ago, the average wait time at the pharmacy was 45 minutes."

Wilson pointed that the new system is a real timesaver for the patient and the clinic.

"The patients come in, go in with a doctor, and they're out in about 15 minutes," Wilson said. "In about another 10 minutes they have their prescription, then they're out the door. This is a kind of one-stop shopping and our patients are loving it."

For more information on BMC Oceana, go to [www.nasoceana.navy.mil](http://www.nasoceana.navy.mil) and click on "Branch Medical Clinic."

**RDC, con't. from pg. 2**

Following a stint at Great Lakes, RDCs are given special consideration for their next assignment. The experience can also pay off after a Navy career is over.

"There are people in the civilian world who get a lot of money for doing stuff like this," Nobles said.

Being an RDC can be one of the toughest jobs in the Navy. In addition to developing the recruits, the RDC is also challenged to sharpen his or her own skills as a leader, counselor, instructor and manager.

The RDC also conducts more counseling daily than most jobs in the Navy. Some of the RDCs returning for a second tour have already seen the results of their first tour as an RDC in the fleet.

"I've been on ships and a Sailor will walk up to me and thank me for being his RDC," said Senior Chief Aviation Structural Mechanic (AW) Stanley Anasarias. "It's very rewarding to see them improving themselves. We're part of that process and it starts here."

The Navy needs more RDCs to accommodate the flow of recruits into Great Lakes. In 1999, the Navy had a need for about 710 RDCs. That number increased by 18 in 2000. Great Lakes can handle 19 recruit divisions per week, with a maximum capacity of more than 16,000 recruits.

The hours are demanding. The RDC spends an average of 126 hours each week with the division. Prospective RDCs take a second trip through boot camp during their rigorous 13-week training.

Classes have anywhere from four to 50 students. The average number of an RDC class is 15. At the end of training, the trainees are awarded the red rope and badge of the RDC.

Following training, each RDC is paired up with a veteran RDC. This allows the rookie RDC to learn what is expected prior to taking control of a recruit division.

For more information on the RDC program, go to [www.ntegl.navy.mil/rtrcdc.html](http://www.ntegl.navy.mil/rtrcdc.html).

**Vieques, con't. from pg. 2**

to end operations at Vieques in May 2003.

The new group's task is different from that of an earlier team led by Marine Corps Gen. Peter Pace and Adm. William Fallon. That group's charter was to find an alternative to Vieques, Quigley said, but it concluded no perfect match currently exists.

For more information about Vieques, go to [www.navyvieques.navy.mil](http://www.navyvieques.navy.mil).

**This Week on Navy/Marine Corps News**

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Look for the following stories and more on next week's Navy/Marine Corps News show:

- The president honors the Navajo code talkers of World War II in a special ceremony on Capitol Hill;
- Find out who the top shooters in the military are when we take you to the 40th Annual Interservice Rifle Championships;
- See how military veterinarians in Norfolk help service members save money and keep their pets healthy and happy;
- More than 400 Sailors and Marines pitch in to help out at the National Boy Scout Jamboree.

Compiled on tape #2001-32, the show is on its way to the fleet now.

**This Week in Naval History:**

- August 6, 1945: Captain W.S. Parsons, a Navy weaponeer aboard the B-29 Bomber *Enola Gay*, arms an atomic bomb that is dropped over the Japanese mainland city of Hiroshima. A second atomic weapon was detonated over Nagasaki three days later. Thousands of people died in the two blasts forcing Japan to surrender on Aug. 14 and ending World War II.

- August 7, 1942: A Navy amphibious task force lands Marines on Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands, initiating the first land offensive in the Pacific during World War II.

- August 8, 1959: The Office of Naval Research (ONR) develops Project Teepee, an electronic system to monitor 95 percent of the earth's atmosphere for missile launchings and nuclear explosions.

- August 9, 1949: Lt. Jack L. Furin, assigned to Fighter Squadron (VF) 171, is the first naval aviator to use an ejection seat. Fruin ejected from an F-2H *Banshee* jet fighter over Walterboro, S.C., when his aircraft's starboard engine failed. He survived a water landing, sustaining a broken leg.

- August 10, 1921: Rear Adm. William A. Moffett is appointed chief of the newly established Bureau of Aeronautics. This is the first new Navy bureau created since the Civil War.

- August 11, 1990: During "Operation Desert Shield," the hospital ship USNS *Comfort* (AH 20) sails from Baltimore, Md., to Norfolk, Va., en route to the Persian Gulf. This is the first hospital ship to be fully activated since the Vietnam War.

- August 12, 1918: Opha M. Johnson enlists in the Marine Corps Reserve, becoming the first woman Marine. During World War I, these "Marinettes" as they were called, filled needed clerical billets.

Visit the Naval Historical Center Web site at [www.history.navy.mil](http://www.history.navy.mil) for more information about naval history.

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